

Corridor Working Group Meeting – Meeting Summary

February 21, 2006

1:30 – 3:30 p.m.

WSDOT Kent Maintenance Center
26620 68th Avenue South, Kent 98032**Attendees:****WSDOT**Carol Hunter
Chad Brown
Thomas Noyes
Mike Sallis**City of Kent**

Erin Fehringer

Pierce County

Cindy Larkin

City of Renton

Peter Hahn

PSRC

Pete Beaulieu

City of AuburnRoger Thordarson
Mitzi McMahan**Perteet**Loren Sand
Michael Booth**EnvirolIssues**

Kristine dos Remedios

Welcome and Introductions*Carol Hunter, WSDOT*

Carol Hunter, WSDOT, welcomed the group and thanked them for coming. Carol apologized for the miscommunication regarding the key speaker, Dick Gersib, who was to present the SR 167 area watershed characterization study and discuss how the information can help define a watershed and wetlands strategy for the corridor.

Approve January 17th Meeting Summary*Carol Hunter, WSDOT*

Copies of the January 17th meeting summary were sent to the partners prior to the meeting via email and in hard copy at the meeting. Dennis Dowdy sent his comments on the meeting summary to Kristine dos Remedios prior to the meeting, since he was not able to attend the meeting. Kristine will make edits to the summary to reflect Dennis' comments.

Open Houses – What We Heard*Carol Hunter, WSDOT*

Carol Hunter said that despite efforts to advertise and generate media attention for the February SR 167 open houses, very few members of the public came. Eleven citizens came to the February 15th open house in Sumner and nine citizens came to the February 16th open house in Kent. The Seattle Times, PI, King County

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Journal, and Daily Journal of Commerce all came to a media briefing at the WSDOT offices and published stories about the open house events. Several television and radio stations also picked up the events.

Carol said that the team can either assume that the HOT lanes project is not a controversial project, or the public is not interested in going to open house events in their evening. As a result of these open houses, and a general trend of low attendance at open house events, WSDOT is having department wide discussions about the success of open houses as a tool for public outreach. The team will reevaluate its outreach methods as it moves forward with completing the Corridor Plan and Phase II of the HOT lanes project under the SR 167 GEC contract.

Discussion Topics:

- Pete Beaulieu, PSRC, encouraged WSDOT to apply any new outreach strategies to all WSDOT projects for consistency
- Roger Thordarson, City of Auburn, asked if the team was planning on having informational booths at fairs and festivals along SR 167. Carol said that more informal outreach at fairs and festivals will likely be the direction for future public involvement. The team has gone out to fairs, festivals and farmers markets in the project team and has had great success.

Watershed Characterization Study

Carol Hunter, WSDOT

Carol apologized again for the miscommunication regarding the key speaker, Dick Gersib. If possible, Dick will be invited to speak at the March 21st CWG meeting next month.

Discussion:

- Erin Fehringer, City of Kent said that her supervisor, Mike Mactutis, had requested a copy of the watershed characterization study. The team said that the study may have been sent directly to Tim LaPorte. Erin said that she would coordinate with Tim to get the copy.

Truckers Survey

Loren Sand, Perteet

The CWG members requested a brief update on the trucker's survey. Loren Sand said that 500 surveys were sent out and the team received responses from 40-50 companies. The team then identified 100 representative companies along the corridor and made phone calls to encourage participation in the survey, which built up the survey response to 50-60 completed surveys. The team is still receiving completed surveys. For example, Boeing sent in their response just last week. The information provided by the trucking companies in the surveys is similar to

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what the team has already heard from trucking companies. Truckers are asking for more capacity along SR 167 and for WSDOT to open the HOV lanes to trucks. A summary of the survey responses is being prepared and will be sent out to the CWG members.

Discussion:

- None

Next Meeting: 3/21/06, 1:30 – 3:30 p.m.
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